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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-22 remain in the application. Claims 1-22 are subject to examination.

Under the heading "Drawings", the Examiner states in regards to Fig. 1, element 15 that the label is wrong. Applicant submits a copy of original Fig. 1 in which the label is shown as "Data Conversion Unit" which is believed to be correct and as the Examiner wished to have. Perhaps the Examiner has received a poor photocopy of Fig. 1? As the original Fig. 1 was believe to be proper, no drawing change amendment is filed herewith.

Under the heading "Specification", the Examiner notes a typo on page 21, line 9. The typo has been corrected per the Examiner's suggestion and more information has been added about what is read from the register cell. Support for the change is found on page 16, lines 11-15 of the specification of the instant application.

Under the heading "Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102" on pages 3-6 of above-identified Office Action, claims 1-3, 8-14 and 19-22 have been rejected as being fully

anticipated by Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

As will be explained below, it is believed that the claims were patentable over the cited art in their original form and, therefore, the claims have not been amended to overcome the references.

The last paragraph of claim 1 of the instant application recites "said bit read at said optimum sampling time being fed into said comparative sequence" (emphasis added).

As correctly stated by the Examiner in his analysis, the comparative sequence is denoted by reference numeral 9 in Fig. 1. Thus in the prior art, the comparative sequence in Fig. 1 is the synchronization word RXSYNC. As further correctly stated by the Examiner, the bit read at the optimum sampling time corresponds to reference numeral 7. More specifically it is read by the sample and hold element 14 as recited on page 21, lines 8 to 11 of the specification of the instant application.

In Fig. 1 (the prior art), the bit 7 is stored in the sample and hold element 14. However, the bit 7 is not fed into the comparative sequence 9, i.e. into the

synchronization word RXSYNC. More specifically, the synchronization word is predetermined or preknown to the receiver (see page 2, lines 22-25 of the specification).

In contrast, in the invention of the instant application as shown in Fig. 2, the bit 7 read at the optimum sampling time is fed into the comparative sequence. This is clearly depicted by arrow 28 showing that the newly read bit  $r[k_0]$  read at the optimum sample time which is stored in the sample and hold element 27 is also input into the comparative sequence shift register 22. The Examiner is directed to page 23, line 19 to page 24 line 3 of the specification which specifically states "Unlike in the prior art, the newly read bit  $r[k_0]$  is also feed into the comparative-sequence shift register 22 (arrow 28) so that the following new comparative sequence is obtained ...".

In other words, in the prior art, a predetermined synchronization word RXSYNC is input via line 9 into the comparative sequence shift register 10. It is further emphasized that the synchronization word is known to the receiver at the start of the reception of the data burst. In contrast, and according to the invention of the instant application, bits  $r[k_0]$  from the sample and hold element 27 read at the optimum sampling time are fed into the

comparative sequence shift register 22. Therefore the synchronization word cannot be predetermined or known to the receiver at the start of the reception of the data burst. Therefore claim 1 of the instant application is not believed to be anticipated by AAPA.

As claim 12 of the instant application also recites similar claim language as claim 1 and specifically recites the steps of:

reading a next bit from the oversampled digital bit stream at a previous optimum sampling time; and

feeding the bit into a comparative sequence being stored as a continuous bit pattern (emphasis added).

Therefore claim 12 is also not believed to be anticipated by AAPA for the same above stated reasons.

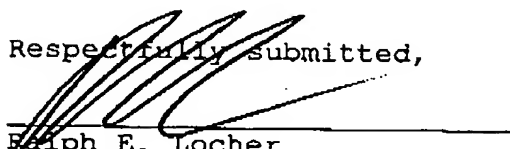
It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 or 12. Claims 1 and 12 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art. The dependent claims are believed to be patentable as well because they all are ultimately dependent on claim 1 or 12.

Finally, Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the Examiner's statement that claims 4-7 and 15-18 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." In light of the above, Applicants respectfully believe that rewriting of claims 4-7 and 15-18 is unnecessary at this time.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-22 are solicited.

Please charge any other fees that might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner Greenberg Sterner LLP, No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



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